

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application.

**I. The election.**

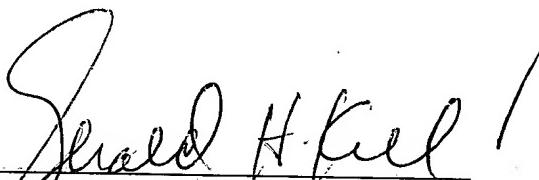
Applicant elects alleged Group I which is directed to claims 1-19 with traverse.

---

Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement for the reasons above.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact applicant's attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald H. Kiel /

Gerald H. Kiel, 25,116  
Attorney for Applicant

Reed Smith LLP  
599 Lexington Avenue, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
Tel. (212) 521-5400